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Attorney Docket No. Q64574
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hirobumi AOKI, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/869,142

Confirmation No.: 1209

Group Art Unit: 1633

Filed: June 26, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: NOVEL RHODOCOCCLUS BACTERIUM, NITRILASE GENE, NITRYL HYDRATASE
GENE AND AMIDASE GENE FROM RHODOCOCCLUS BACTERIUM, AND
PROCESS FOR PRODUCING CARBOXYLIC ACIDS USING THEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby
notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached
Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability
of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three
months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution
application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the
merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a

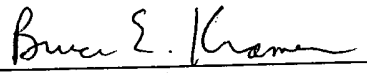
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/869,142

request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication from a Foreign Patent Office indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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